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BY: C. De Medel DATE: Oct. 15, 2002



PATENT
BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT #16/

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of : Group Art Unit 1645
Ian Richard Anselm Peak *et al.* :
Conf. No.: 6450 : Examiner: Vanessa L. Ford
Appln. No.: 09/771,382 :
Filed: January 25, 2001 : Attorney Docket
For: MODIFIED SURFACE ANTIGEN : No. 8795-24U1
(2/8615/US-MLE/JAB)

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**AMENDMENT
AND
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated July 12, 2002 (Paper No. 15) in the patent application referenced above.

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

On page 1 of the specification, between lines 2 and 3, please insert the following paragraph.

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is entitled to priority, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119(e), to U.S. Provisional Application serial number 60/177,917, filed January 25, 2000.--

Please delete the following paragraphs and substitute the corresponding replacement paragraphs in place thereof. For the Examiner's convenience a "Marked-Up Copy of Amended Specification Paragraphs" accompanies this Amendment. In that document, text which has been added to the claim is underlined, and text which has been deleted from the claims is ~~struck through~~.